

# **Brief** newsletter

October | 2007

## contents



1

### Passport Services

Starting November 1, the City of Chula Vista will be offering one-stop service for your passport needs. Passport Application Services will be available at City Hall Mondays through Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon, by appointment only. Pick up an application at the Office of the City Clerk or download the form from <http://travel.state.gov>. Submit your paperwork, present the necessary documentation and have your photograph taken at the City Clerk's kiosk in the lobby area. Call (619) 409-1950 for more information.

2

### Shop/Dine Chula Vista

This month, the City of Chula Vista in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, launched the Shop Chula Vista campaign to encourage residents to spend money in their own city. A portion of the local sales tax consumers pay is deposited into the general fund. Those dollars help support Chula Vista's public services, which include libraries, recreation centers, and fire and police protection. Look for the colorful shopping and dining guide for listings of the most popular shopping centers and restaurants. Remember to clip the Dollars for Dining coupon that offers a discount at six well-known restaurants at the Otay Ranch Town Center. The promotion ends December 1.



3

### New Business

Frida Mexican Cuisine, a 7,500 square foot restaurant across from King's Fish House, will be opening at the Otay Ranch Town Center, November 12. Frida's executive chef combines authentic Mexican flavors with rich, fine cuisine in a gourmet style. Frida will be open for lunch and dinner. Learn more about the restaurant's event planning and catering at [www.fridarestuarant.com](http://www.fridarestuarant.com).

4

### Recruiting for CAST

Are you looking for a different kind of volunteer experience? Consider signing up for the Citizens Adversity Support Team (CAST), a trauma intervention program. Members of CAST are highly trained volunteers who respond to crisis situations and offer compassionate, supportive assistance to victims' families and survivors.

This group of volunteers--on call 24 hours a day--is trained by emergency professionals and has responded to thousands of calls in the communities of Chula Vista, Bonita, and Imperial Beach. Sign up for the next CAST training session, which begins January 19 by calling Emerald Randolph at (619) 691-5213.

- 1 *Passport Services*
- 2 *Shop/Dine Chula Vista*
- 3 *New Business*
- 4 *Recruiting for CAST*
- 5 *"Dancing with Our Stars"*
- 6 *Budget Workshop*
- 7 *Mortgage Advice*
- 8 *Nature Center Hosts Celebration*
- 9 *Discovering Your Family History*
- 10 *Masters of Mystery Film*



CITY OF  
**CHULA VISTA**



## 5 "Dancing with Our Stars"

Dance the night away with city and community leaders--and special guest Mario Lopez--at the ninth annual "Change Their Lives Extravaganza," Saturday, October 27 at the Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego. The event-organized by South Bay Community Services-benefits Casas Seguras, a shelter for victims of domestic violence. This year's theme, "Dancing with Our Stars," features local stars, surprise productions, a silent auction, entertainment, a fashion show and live auction. For tickets, call (619) 420-3620.

## 6 Budget Workshop

At a budget workshop November 1 in Council Chambers, the City Council will consider millions of dollars in budget cuts recommended by City Manager David Garcia and a special Budget Review Team. The City of Chula Vista is facing an unanticipated budget shortfall of more than \$7 million due primarily to the fallout of a housing slowdown and lower than expected sales tax revenues and franchise fees. The meeting will be streamed live on the City's website at [www.chulavistaca.gov](http://www.chulavistaca.gov).

## 7 Mortgage Advice

Now that the red hot housing market in the San Diego region has cooled, many homeowners are facing foreclosure or balloon payments they can't afford. What should you do if you miss a mortgage payment? Don't make a bad situation worse by ignoring your dilemma.

- Call for help. More than half of homeowners facing foreclosure did not call for help when they fell behind in their payments.
- Notify the bank as soon as you know your payment will be late.
- Work it out. Depending on the situation, the lender may lower the interest rate, lower the payment, or enter into a repayment agreement.
- Avoid foreclosure rescue scams by calling a reputable nonprofit organization. HOPE for Homeowners is an independent resource that is part of a HUD-certified network dedicated to helping homeowners. Call 888-995-HOPE or visit [www.housingcollaborative.org](http://www.housingcollaborative.org) to get help from a certified counselor.

## 8 Nature Center Hosts Celebration

Celebrate National Wildlife Refuge Week along the bay at the Chula Vista Nature Center, Saturday, October 13-- an event sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Enjoy birding and nature tours, special guest speakers and performers, children's environmental activities and crafts and more. Admission to the Nature Center, located on the Sweetwater Marsh, will be free. National Wildlife Refuge Week recognizes the wonders and significance of the nation's 550 refuges. The fun begins at 10 a.m. and ends when the center closes at 5 p.m. Check the schedule of events on the Nature Center's website at [www.cvnc.us](http://www.cvnc.us) or call (619) 409-5900.



## 9 Discovering Your Family History

How much do you know about your family history? Where did your ancestors come from and how did they get to California? Find out how to search for answers via the Internet, at a special free seminar offered at the Civic Center Branch Library on October 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. "Discover Your Family History Online" will focus on genealogy resources available on the Internet, including freely accessible and commercial genealogy web sites. For more information call (619) 691-5069 or click on [www.chulavistalibrary.com](http://www.chulavistalibrary.com).

## 10 Masters of Mystery Film

Four great books that have been made into films will headline the Masters of Mystery Film Festival at the Chula Vista Public Library. The films will be shown on Thursday nights-- Oct. 4, 11, and 25 and Nov. 1, starting at 6:45 p.m. in the auditorium of the Civic Center Branch. The Masters of Mystery Film Festival follows the successful Film Noir series, which the library showed early this year. Visit your nearest library to find out more about the series or call the Civic Center Branch at (619) 691-5069.

## contact

**City of Chula Vista**  
276 Fourth Avenue  
Chula Vista, CA 91910

*This publication is produced by the City of Chula Vista's  
Office of Communications.*

**To receive this free monthly newsletter via email automatically,  
please sign up at [www.chulavistaca.gov](http://www.chulavistaca.gov) or call (619) 691-5296.**

**Events Hotline: (619) 585-5682**